

THE WONDERFUL ADMISSIONS SYSTEM

To be used at the World's Fair




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If the person lives who can beat his way into the World's Fair, its managers will pay well for his system.

They are then ready to admit that their remarkable admission system is not as near perfect as human ingenuity could make it.

Every device to defeat trickery, to assure accuracy and save time has been employed by Director Gregg of the Division of Concessions and Admissions.

When you pass through the turnstile an electric message of your arrival is flashed by underground wires to a dial tower, where it is instantly registered.

Any hour, any moment of any day in the entire Exposition period, you may know at a glance how many thousands have entered the gates at the precise minute of your curiosity.

The same look will tell you the total number of persons who have paid to see the great show from its inauguration until the second that the eyes have sought the automatic record.

Around the walls of the dialhouse, where these records are mechanically centralized for instant inspection, one may read "Adult No. 1," "Children No. 2" over the clocklike face of dials colored red and blue and green.

CHILDREN TO HAVE THEIR OWN STILES.

Red may mean the east, or Forest Park, gateway. "No. 1 Adult" signifies the turnstile numbered 1 in the series at that particular gate, and "No. 2 Children" is the official designation of the stile at the same gate to be used exclusively for half-rate tickets.

For there are stiles for the grown-ups and stiles for the youngsters and stiles for automobiles; only one class of admission can pass one class of stiles.

The corresponding dial in the central office registers only one kind of admission.

When the gates of the Exposition are closed at night no lightning calculators will cast up the sum of the day's business; not a scrap of paper will be needed in this mechanical bookkeeping.

A single reading of the dials on the wall to an operator at an adding machine in the center of the room will give immediately the earnings of the Exposition between 1 a. m. and midnight.

Each dial carries its grand total of admissions as the months of the show slip away, besides the total of the last day's business.

The summary of admissions is carried forward at the end of every twenty-four hours by the adding machine.

The network of buried electric wires have told the story of finance.

So have each turnstile at every gateway.

In the top of the metal dial post a cyclometer has registered every quarter turn of the four-spoked wheel.

Each ticket received by the stiletkeeper has been perforated as it entered the slot of the chopper box. The ticket has been utterly cancelled. The numbers on the cyclometer must correspond with the cancelled tickets and thus the check is absolute.

Then the lynx eyes of an inspection corps have been busy all day at each gateway, watching for irregularities.

Of no avail will be the pressure of the ticket taker's foot on a pedal which releases the registering post, when the holder of a pass presents himself, should the ticket taker wish to pass a friend.

The interruption will be noted by the Chief Inspector in the dial-house. The pass must be accounted for by number.

HOLDER OF THE PASS REGISTERED.

Repetitions of the offense would arouse suspicion, and the secret service men would be instructed to watch for irregularities at a certain stile.

The holder of the pass is registered. He might be consulted as to whether he entered at that stile or gate.

This method of testing the integrity of the ticket taker could be resorted to at any time.

Go to the Exposition with your children. Try to keep a tight hold of your heart's delight, to avoid losing her in the crowd, and attempt to carry her by a gate.

You are stopped immediately by the stiletkeeper. An inspector takes her arm and leads her to the children's stile. A pretty matron on the other side receives the apple of your eye and keeps her in charge until you have entered the grounds, when girlie is handed over, safe and sound.

It is necessary. You must register a full admission in the dialhouse and she a half rate. Her electric wire has flashed her arrival; yours has ticked 50 cents more into the enormous receipts of the big show.

Such a system of admission mechanism has not been used at a previous exposition. It is an invention that came into vogue since the Chicago Fair.

Paris did not use it. At all of these shows the old-time counting of receipts and comparison with the tickets taken at the gates made work for hundreds of accountants.

Labor-saving devices have been perfected to a high degree in the last ten years. The St. Louis management has taken advantage of the innovation.

Not less wonderful is the system of keeping the office records of passes, which is the invention of Assistant Director of Concessions and Admissions White.

The whole system is compressed into a card index, containing 6,000 subdivisions of the alphabet. It is a compact record of the passes and badges issued to individuals on various accounts. In this cabinet it is estimated that every bit of 70,000 card passes will be kept during the Exposition period.

The immensity of this single feature of the work entailed on the Admissions Department can only be illustrated by figures taken from the records of the same department at the Columbian Exposition, where approximately 21,000,000 admission tickets were printed and 23,335 full-term passes were issued, in addition to about 40,000 monthly passes, giving a total of 79,335 passes issued by the Chicago management.

When it is remembered that the extensive subdivision of the alphabet made by Mr. White enables him or his assistants to place their finger on the complete record of any one of 70,000 passes in a few seconds, the real time-saving worth of this system is revealed.

The heaviest percentage of the passes to be issued by the Admissions Department will be to the concessionaires of the Exposition.

In Chicago 36,473 passes were issued to concessionaires. It is explained that such a large proportion of the pass privilege is due to the showmen of the Midway, because of the frequency of the discharge by them of employees whose peculiar vocation induces them to move about the country more than the person of fixed employment.

**TIME-KILLING
DEVICES WILL
REDUCE LABOR OF
ADMISSION SYSTEM TO
A MINIMUM . . .**

AUTOMATICALLY REGISTERING TURNSTILES, FOR THE FIRST TIME AT ANY EXPOSITION, WILL BY ELECTRIC UNDERGROUND WIRES REPEAT EVERY ADMISSION ON ITS CORRESPONDING DIAL IN A CENTRAL OFFICE.

DIALS IN THE CENTRAL OFFICE KEEP A RUNNING RECORD OF ADMISSIONS, GIVING AT ANY MINUTE OF THE DAY THE EXACT NUMBER OF PERSONS THAT HAVE PASSED THROUGH EVERY GATE. AN ADDING MACHINE CASTS UP THE TOTALS AT NIGHT IN LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES.

CHILDREN CANNOT PASS THROUGH ANY GATE USED FOR ADULTS. INSPECTORS WILL REMOVE CHILDREN FROM THEIR GUARDIANS AND PASS THEM THROUGH THEIR OWN GATE INTO THE WAITING ARMS OF MATRONS.

AN ESTIMATE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMISSIONS OF THE NUMBER OF PASSES TO BE ISSUED DURING THE EXPOSITION PERIOD IS 70,000. A QUICK RECORD OF THESE PRIVILEGES IS KEPT IN A CARD INDEX, WHICH HAS 6,000 SUBDIVISIONS OF THE ALPHABET.

SEVENTY-EIGHT FORMS OF APPLICATION BLANKS FOR PASSES WILL BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMISSIONS. THESE FORMS ARE SHORT AND TO THE POINT. EVERYTHING IN THE SYSTEM IS DEVISED TO KILL TIME.